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BOOK REVIEWS

METHODS AND PRINCIPLES

Man and his Past. O. G. S. CRAWFORD. Oxford University Press: London, 1921. 227 pp.

The large number of books on anthropological subjects now appearing in England is marked by one well above the average of these publications. While based almost entirely on a study of Roman roads in England, it is an excellent text book for archaeological students in any country. The author starts with the idea of the earliest flint implements as "extra-corporeal limbs" and traces the factor of tools in the development of man.

The content of archaeology is treated fully and the alliance between anthropology and history is brought out in a way second only to that in James Harvey Robinson's *New History*. The common sense approach to field methods, the isolation of periods from the study of types, the intensive examination of regions and cultures are all worthy of mention. The time aspect of archaeology is contrasted with the space aspect of geography. There is an important chapter on "Value" in archaeology. The author writes entertainingly on the suggestion of General Pitt Rivers that the word "importance" be excluded from scientific dictionaries.

Another chapter on "Distributions" as showing areas of habitation in contrast to trade specimens, and the interpretation of chance finds are subjects useful in any field. The illustration of his methods by the work on Roman roads is clear and concise. This book, although perhaps not intended as a work on field methods, may well take its place along with other books on this subject of a far more technical nature.

A. M. TOZZER

AMERICA

Mythology of All Races. Vol. XI: *Latin-American Mythology*. HARTLEY BURR ALEXANDER, Ph. D., Professor of Philosophy, University of Nebraska. Marshall Jones Co.: Boston, 1920. Pp. xvi, 424, 2 figs., 42 pls.

As in the companion volume of this series on North America, the author has amply fulfilled his purpose of presenting the mythical

material of the area in question. There is no attempt at interpretation or discussion of the various aspects of the complicated and disconnected mythologies of Latin-America. He has seemingly been through an immense mass of literature and has not neglected the early historical authorities so numerous in this field. It is they, in fact, who give him the greater amount of his material. He has only partially availed himself of the material contained in the Mexican and Maya codices. Seler's interpretation of some of the Mexican manuscripts has been used to some extent.

This book covers practically the same field as one by Lewis Spence, *The Myths of Mexico and Peru*, published in 1913. This present volume treats the subject with much more thoroughness and with far greater intelligence in the use of the authorities. There is a great deal of ethnological and archaeological material in this volume; in some chapters it bulks larger than the data more purely mythical in character. This is to be excused, especially in some cases in South and Central America, where there is little known concerning the mythology of many sections of the country.

As in all volumes of this series, the numerous illustrations are beautifully made, many of them in color, but in only a few cases is there any reference to them in the text. It is regrettable that, from the point of view of the student, these illustrations have little additional value and they have undoubtedly added greatly to the cost of the volumes in the series.

A. M. TOZZER

AFRICA

The Akamba of British East Africa; An Ethnological Monograph.

GERHARD LINDBLOM. 2d edition, enlarged. Upsala: Appelberg, 1920. 8°; xii, 607 pp. (Archives d'Etudes orientales, vol. 17.)

Die Kpelle: ein Negerstamm in Liberia dargestellt auf der Grundlage von Eingeborenen-Berichten. Mit zwei Nachträgen: Texte in der Golasprache und Kpelle-Beiträge von H. ROHDE. DIEDRICH WESTERMANN. Göttingen: Vanderhoeck u. Ruprecht, 1921. 8°; xvi, 552 pp. (Quellen der Religionsgeschichte, no. 9.)

Two important monographs relating to African peoples have recently appeared—one Lindblom's *Akamba*, dealing with a Bantu population, the other, Westermann's *Kpelle*, with true Negroes. They